

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE
MEADE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2006 TAXES**

**For The Period
January 1, 2007 Through April 27, 2007**



**CRIT LUALLEN
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE
MEADE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2006 TAXES

For The Period January 1, 2007 Through April 27, 2007

The Auditor of Public Accounts has completed the audit of the Sheriff's Settlement - 2006 Taxes for the Meade County Sheriff for the period January 1, 2007 through April 27, 2007. We have issued an unqualified opinion on the financial statement taken as a whole. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement is presented fairly in all material respects.

Financial Condition:

The Sheriff collected taxes of \$1,993,066 for the districts for 2006 taxes, retaining commissions of \$75,028 to operate the Sheriff's office. The Sheriff distributed taxes of \$1,913,055 to the districts for 2006 Taxes. Taxes of \$4,124 are due to the districts from the Sheriff and refunds of \$170 are due to the Sheriff from the taxing districts.

Report Comment:

- The Sheriff Should Distribute Interest Earned On Tax Collections Monthly

Deposits:

The Sheriff's deposits were insured and collateralized as of April 27, 2007; however, on January 31, 2007, the Sheriff's deposits were exposed to custodial credit risk as follows:

- Uninsured and Uncollateralized \$695,997

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CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

To the People of Kentucky

Honorable Steven L. Beshear, Governor

Jonathan Miller, Secretary

Finance and Administration Cabinet

Honorable Harry Craycroft, Meade County Judge/Executive

Honorable William Kerrick, Meade County Sheriff

Members of the Meade County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the Meade County Sheriff's Settlement - 2006 Taxes for the period January 1, 2007 through April 27, 2007. This tax settlement is the responsibility of the Meade County Sheriff. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for Sheriff's Tax Settlements issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Sheriff's office prepares the financial statement on a prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the Meade County Sheriff's taxes charged, credited, and paid for the period January 1, 2007 through April 27, 2007, in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated September 21, 2007 on our consideration of the Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.



To the People of Kentucky

Honorable Steven L. Beshear, Governor

Jonathan Miller, Secretary

Finance and Administration Cabinet

Honorable Harry Craycroft, Meade County Judge/Executive

Honorable William Kerrick, Meade County Sheriff

Members of the Meade County Fiscal Court

Based on the results of our audit, we present the accompanying comment and recommendation, included herein, which discusses the following report comment:

- The Sheriff Should Distribute Interest Earned On Tax Collections Monthly

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Crit Luallen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Crit Luallen

Auditor of Public Accounts

September 21, 2007

MEADE COUNTY
WILLIAM KERRICK, SHERIFF
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2006 TAXES

For The Period January 1, 2007 Through April 27, 2007

<u>Charges</u>	<u>County Taxes</u>	<u>Special Taxing Districts</u>	<u>School Taxes</u>	<u>State Taxes</u>
Real Estate	\$ 277,196	\$ 286,494	\$ 668,607	\$ 164,264
Tangible Personal Property	27,059	17,272	35,582	16,943
Fire Protection	137			
Oil and Gas Property Taxes	43,982	23,213	106,086	26,063
Franchise Taxes	183,204	101,836	258,587	
Limestone, Sand and Mineral Reserves	3,893	3,766	9,389	2,307
Penalties	15,142	14,069	34,997	8,617
Gross Chargeable to Sheriff	<u>550,613</u>	<u>446,650</u>	<u>1,113,248</u>	<u>218,194</u>
<u>Credits</u>				
Exonerations	155	127	374	92
Discounts	495	275	1,193	293
Delinquents:				
Real Estate	36,043	33,861	86,925	21,356
Tangible Personal Property	296	189	389	276
Uncollected Franchise Taxes	<u>51,782</u>	<u>29,086</u>	<u>72,432</u>	
Total Credits	<u>88,771</u>	<u>63,538</u>	<u>161,313</u>	<u>22,017</u>
Taxes Collected	461,842	383,112	951,935	196,177
Less: Commissions *	<u>19,628</u>	<u>10,888</u>	<u>36,174</u>	<u>8,338</u>
Taxes Due	442,214	372,224	915,761	187,839
Taxes Paid	441,490	369,300	914,555	187,710
Refunds (Current and Prior Year)	<u>218</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>511</u>	<u>129</u>
Due Districts or (Refunds Due Sheriff) as of Completion of Audit	<u>\$ 506</u>	<u>\$ 2,753</u>	<u>\$ 695</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

* and ** See Next Page.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

MEADE COUNTY
 WILLIAM KERRICK, SHERIFF
 SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2006 TAXES
 January 1, 2007 through April 27, 2007
 (Continued)

* Commissions:

4.25% on	\$	891,409
3.8% on	\$	951,935
1% on	\$	96,873
0% on	\$	52,849

** Special Taxing Districts:

Library District	\$	2,759
Health District		6
Extension District		9
Soil Conservation District		143
Flaherty Fire District		6
Meade Fire District		(132)
City of Brandenburg		(27)
City of Muldraugh		(11)
		<hr/>

Due Districts or
 (Refunds Due Sheriff)

\$ 2,753

MEADE COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

April 27, 2007

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

The Sheriff's office tax collection duties are limited to acting as an agent for assessed property owners and taxing districts. A fund is used to account for the collection and distribution of taxes. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement has been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting. Basis of accounting refers to when charges, credits, and taxes paid are reported in the settlement statement. It relates to the timing of measurements regardless of the measurement focus.

Charges are sources of revenue which are recognized in the tax period in which they become available and measurable. Credits are reductions of revenue which are recognized when there is proper authorization. Taxes paid are uses of revenue which are recognized when distributions are made to the taxing districts and others.

C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the Sheriff's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

Note 2. Deposits

The Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the Sheriff and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution.

MEADE COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
April 27, 2007
(Continued)

Note 2. Deposits (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the Sheriff's deposits may not be returned. The Sheriff does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of April 27, 2007, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement; however, on January 31, 2007, the Sheriff's deposits were exposed to custodial credit risk as follows:

- Uninsured and Uncollateralized \$695,997

Note 3. Tax Collection Period

The real and personal property tax assessments were levied as of January 1, 2006. Property taxes were billed to finance governmental services for the year ended June 30, 2007. Liens are effective when the tax bills become delinquent. The collection period for these assessments was January 1, 2007 through April 27, 2007.

Note 4. Interest Income

The Meade County Sheriff earned \$1,328 as interest income on 2006 taxes. As of September 21, 2007, the Sheriff owed \$610 in interest to the school district and \$718 in interest to his fee account.

Note 5. Sheriff's 10% Add-On Fee

The Meade County Sheriff collected \$56,846 of 10% add-on fees allowed by KRS 134.430(3). This amount was used to operate the Sheriff's office.

Note 6. Advertising Costs And Fees

The Meade County Sheriff collected \$6,900 of advertising costs and \$1,725 of advertising fees allowed by KRS 424.330(1) and KRS 134.440(2). The Sheriff distributed the advertising costs to the county as required by statute, and the advertising fees were used to operate the Sheriff's office.

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON
COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Harry Craycroft, Meade County Judge/Executive
Honorable William Kerrick, Meade County Sheriff
Members of the Meade County Fiscal Court

**Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On
Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards**

We have audited the Meade County Sheriff's Settlement - 2006 Taxes for the period January 1, 2007 through April 27, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated September 21, 2007. The Sheriff prepares his financial statement in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Meade County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Meade County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting which is a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statement that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statement will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.



Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On
Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards
(Continued)

Compliance And Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Meade County Sheriff's Settlement - 2006 Taxes for the period January 1, 2007 through April 27, 2007 is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards and which is described in the accompanying comment and recommendation.

- The Sheriff Should Distribute Interest Earned On Tax Collections Monthly

The Meade County Sheriff's response to the findings identified in our audit is included in the accompanying comment and recommendation. We did not audit the Sheriff's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Kentucky Governor's Office for Local Development and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,



Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts

September 21, 2007

COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

MEADE COUNTY
WILLIAM KERRICK, SHERIFF
COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

For The Period January 1, 2007 Through April 27, 2007

STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS:

The Sheriff Should Distribute Interest Earned On Tax Collections Monthly

KRS 134.140(3)(b) requires the Sheriff to pay monthly “ that part of his investment earnings for the month which is attributable to the investment of school taxes.” The Sheriff should distribute the investment earnings at the same time as the monthly tax collections. KRS 134.140(3)(d) requires the remaining monthly interest to be transferred to the Sheriff’s fee account. During 2006 tax collections, the Sheriff’s tax account earned interest of \$1,328. However, the Sheriff did not pay the interest to the Board of Education or the fee account on a monthly basis. As of April 27, 2007, the Sheriff owes the Meade County Board of Education \$610 and the fee account \$718. We recommend the Sheriff comply with KRS 134.140(3)(b) and KRS 134.140(3)(d) by paying the amount of interest due to the school and fee account on a monthly basis.

Sheriff’s Response: No response.

